

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-27 are currently pending. Claims 1, 3, 17, 18, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e); claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b); claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 13, 15, 24, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a); and claims 5, 12, 18-20, 22, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 16, and 21 are objected to but otherwise recite allowable subject matter. Objections have also been raised to the specification and to the drawings.

Claims 1, 5, 11, 12, 18, 20, and 26 have been amended; claims 19, 21, and 23 are canceled without prejudice; and claims 28-38 are newly added. Accordingly, after entry of this amendment, the pending claims are claims 1-18, 20, 22, and 24-38. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

**OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION AND TO THE DRAWINGS**

The Specification has been amended as detailed above in response to the Examiner's objections. Withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

**SECTION 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH REJECTIONS**

Claims 5, 12, 18-20, 22, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite. Claims 5, 11, 18, 20, and 26 have been amended and the grounds for rejection are now believed to be moot. The Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal thereof.

**SECTION 102(e) REJECTIONS**

Claims 1, 3, 17, 18, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 6,652,749 to Stankowski, et al. ("Stankowski"). Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 21, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of the grounds for rejection is respectfully requested.

#### SECTION 102(b) REJECTIONS

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Number 5,194,233 to Kitahara, et al. Claim 23 has been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly the grounds for rejection are now moot.

#### SECTION 103(a) REJECTIONS

Claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 13, 15, 24, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Stankowski. Claim 1 from which all of these claims depend has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 21, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of the grounds for rejection is respectfully requested.

#### NEW CLAIMS

New claim 28 corresponds to canceled claim 23 in a dependent form.

New claim 29 corresponds to independent claim 1 re-written to include the subject matter of claim 3 and claim 6, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. New claim 30 depends

from claim 29 and corresponds to canceled claim 23 in a dependent form.

New claim 31 corresponds to independent claim 1 re-written to include the subject matter of claim 3 and claim 7, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. New claim 32 depends from claim 31 and corresponds to canceled claim 23 in a dependent form.

New claim 33 corresponds to independent claim 1 re-written to include the subject matter of claims 3, 8, 9, and 10, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. New claim 34 depends from claim 33 and corresponds to canceled claim 23 in a dependent form.

New claim 35 corresponds to independent claim 1 re-written to include the subject matter of claims 3, 13, and 14, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. New claim 36 depends from claim 35 and corresponds to canceled claim 23 in a dependent form.

New claim 37 corresponds to independent claim 1 re-written to include the subject matter of claims 3, 15, and 16, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable. New claim 37 depends from claim 37 and corresponds to canceled claim 23 in a dependent form.

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The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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